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## **Jelinek Appointed Chair of School Equity Task Force**

***Task force will work to find equitable replacement to pro-ration reductions***

**LANSING**— Senator Ron Jelinek, R-Three Oaks, has been appointed Chair of the School Equity Task Force by Senate Majority Leader Ken Sikkema, R-Wyoming.

The task force will work to find an equitable replacement for the current School Aid Fund pro-ration reduction method. Governor Granholm's pro-rata reduction results in vastly unequal funding cuts for school districts. Under the current pro-ration method, some school districts face a \$0 per pupil cut while other school districts face as high as a \$141 per pupil cut.

"We, as a task force, need to find a more equitable approach to cut school funding during this budget crunch than the pro-ration reduction," Jelinek said. "Our goal, also, is to keep the promise of Proposal A by keeping school funding equal across the state."

"The task force will actively seek out the opinions of educators and citizens from across Michigan to help us solve this problem, and come up with a more equitable approach to school funding," Jelinek added.

Sen. Mike Bishop and Sen. Cameron Brown were also named to the task force. The task force will issue its report within one month.